

Appl No 10/099,818
Response to Restriction Requirement
Office Action dtd 10/11/05

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction to one of three Groups:

Group I: Claims 1-18 and 21-30, drawn to methods of treating neoplastic diseases or disorders with a CD40-specific agent in combination with a CD20-specific agent;

Group II: Claims 19-20, drawn to compositions comprising a CD40-specific agent in combination with a CD20-specific agent;

Group III: Claims 1-18 and 21-30, drawn to methods of treating autoimmune disease with a CD40-specific agent in combination with a CD20-specific agent.

Without acquiescing to the statements made in the Restriction Requirement, the Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-18, for prosecution in the instant application. Applicants submit that claims 21-30 are not directed to methods of treating a neoplastic disease, and assume that these claims were erroneously included in Group I.

The Examiner is also requiring election of a specific species of CD40-specific agent and CD20-specific agent. The Applicants hereby elect a CD40-specific antibody as the CD40-specific agent, and a CD20-specific antibody as the CD20-specific agent.

The Examiner also requires the election of a species of neoplastic disease or disorder. The Applicants hereby elect multiple myeloma.

Applicants submit that claims 1, 2, 6, and 9-18 are generic with respect to the elected species of neoplastic disease (multiple myeloma), while claim 7 is specific to multiple myeloma.

Applicants further submit that claims 1-8 are generic with respect to the elected CD40-specific antibody species, while claims 9-12 and 16-18 are specific to CD40-specific antibody.

Applicants further submit that claims 1-8 are generic with respect to the elected CD20-specific antibody species, while claims 13-18 are specific to CD20-specific antibody.

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SUMMARY

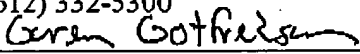
Prosecution of the application on the merits is requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.



Date: November 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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